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NOTTING HILL AS I SAW IT

By Alan Lovell

Race relations:

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THE CLASHES

"THE seriousness of the Nottingham clash... is to be measured by the reactions of responsible citizens in this country both inside and outside Parliament," wrote Father Trevor Huddleston in a letter to the Times.

"If it should lead to the restrictive legislation that some apparently desire, then it will be evident that this country positively desires a colour-bar and is prepared to enforce one. But if it should lead, as it still may, to a radical searching of conscience on the part of ordinary citizens and to a determination that the evil of colour discrimination be totally eradicated from our national life, then much good will have come out of evil."

"It is high time that those who profess the Christian name should take the lead in every place, not only by word but also by deed, in proving their sincerity."

Father Huddleston thinks it important that the correspondence on this subject in The Times should continue.

Situation being watched

Other reactions have been:

John Fletcher (a leading London Quaker who is actively concerned with race relations): Sober people should get down to some serious thinking on the matter. The way that the newspapers present the news and the shallow thinking on the subject is dangerous.

Mr. Geoffrey Ayre (Welfare liaison officer of the Commonwealth Welfare Council for the West Midlands): There has been no change in race relations in Birmingham and the West Midlands generally as a result of the Nottingham and Notting Hill, London, disturbances. Both welfare workers and coloured people are, however, uneasy about the situation. In Wolverhampton a committee has been set up to keep watch on the situation.

Public house brawl

Claud Coltman (Congregational Minister and well-known pacifist), who lives in the affected area near Notting Hill and has four West Indians living with him, told Peace News that the trouble had been little more than an enlarged public house brawl.

"We should be careful not to give the impression that it is an outbreak of inter-racial animosity," he added.

"It does not mean that public opinion is changing about the presence of coloured people here."

"It began between rival rowdies in public houses. Once that begins then, of course, other things take fire—the difficulty of housing and the great competition for homes."

"But it has not yet reached the order of an inter-racial feud. Gang fighting is endemic in the area. Groups go round wanting to knock somebody on the head, pushing walls over, breaking gates down."

See "Racial prejudice," page four, and Fenner Brockway page five.

I SAW hundreds of people standing in the street as soon as I came out of Latimer Road Station on Monday evening. They weren't doing anything except standing and talking but there was a general atmosphere of expectancy.

The most noticeable feature of the crowd was the number of young people in it. Something like 75 per cent must have been under 20.

Most people seemed to be discussing the colour problem. "It's not right," said a woman standing outside a shop "that they should come over here and take jobs from our people." "Hang the b—," shouted a boy of about 20 when a lorry driver said "Up the Spades." "There's no niggers here yet," said another boy of about 19 in a disappointed tone.

The whole evening I saw very few coloured people. A coloured boy was with two white boys. Nobody took any notice of him. A coloured woman walked right through the crowd without anybody paying any attention to her.

As it got dark the young people started to march around the streets in great numbers. There was great excitement whenever one of these marches started.

Each time it looked as if something dangerous was going to start. I followed one from Latimer Road station through several dreary streets to Ladbroke Grove tube station.

When it got to Ladbroke Grove everybody stopped in large groups by a main road. These groups were quickly broken up by the police. Everybody then walked back to where they had come from.

Although there were constant references to "niggers" and "dirty spades" and even some cries of "lynch them," I saw only one person who was really worked up. He was a middle-aged man and seemed slightly drunk. He wanted "to smell the niggers out and burn them."

Indeed, the only time that there was any real excitement was when the police started to move the crowds along. Then there were jeers and shouts. There were hundreds of police around, walking, in lorries and police vans, and with dogs.

Activated by boredom

It would be completely inaccurate to describe what I saw as a race riot. The slighting references to coloured people were made as if old well-known facts were being stated. There was little active hatred behind them.

The crowd seemed more activated by boredom and a desire for excitement than they were by colour prejudice. Colour prejudice had only given them the chance to "have some fun."

Looking around the area, one could see why people were bored and narrow in their attitudes. It is a maze of depressing streets, all looking much the ugly, dreary same. There are no open spaces and no amenities. The only thing to do seems to be to sit in dirty cafes where juke boxes play a never-ending succession of rock and roll songs.

What sort of cry?

One could sense a very close connection between the "dead" streets and the "dead" imaginations that could find their only "amusement" in mob attitudes towards coloured people.

"I am going to the pictures on Saturday," said a girl, "to see 'A cry from the streets.'" Anybody who was in Ladbroke Grove on Monday saw "a cry from the streets." It is important that we try to find out what sort of cry it was if we want to do something constructive about the problem.

Notting Hill was much quieter on Tuesday evening. There was still an air of anticipation everywhere but not many people were on the streets; they stood on their doorways, looked through windows.

If incidents can be avoided for the next few days, then the "race riots" in this area will die a natural death. As the Manchester Guardian suggested, rain would be a great help.

TUC hears case for nuclear disarmament

JOHN HORNER, Fire Brigades Union, A. J. P. Taylor, and J. B. Priestley were the speakers at a meeting to put the case of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament before the Trades Union Congress in Bournemouth.

The Chairman was Harry Knight, of the Association of Supervisory Staffs, Executives and Technicians.

Resolutions on nuclear disarmament were to be debated at the Congress as Peace News went to Press.

Did H-tests kill this sailor?

THE Coroner for South-East Hampshire has decided to hold an inquest on the death of a naval officer who died from leukaemia after taking part in the British H-bomb test at Christmas Island last November.

This move followed earlier statements by the police "There is no question of an inquest," and by the Admiralty "From the information available, there are no grounds for considering that the fact that Lieut. Franklin was serving in the Christmas Island last year had any bearing whatever on the cause of the illness from which he died."

INQUEST OPENED

The Coroner, Mr. R. N. Sherwell, told a Daily Telegraph reporter on Monday:

"The officer's death was not reported to me. The first I knew of it was when I read the newspapers."

"I decided that this was a case where there should be an inquest and the Naval authorities agreed. I opened an inquest at the hospital taking only evidence of identification so that the funeral could take place as arranged."

WITNESS FROM HARWELL

When the inquest is resumed a witness will be present from Harwell, the British atomic research establishment to which the Naval medical authorities sent blood and bone samples on Monday for analysis.

On Wednesday last week a jury at Swansea (South Wales) returned a verdict of death from natural causes on ex-Sapper William Brian Morris, 20, of Swansea, who died of lymphatic leukaemia.

"A pathologist said there was no connection between his death in June last and the fact that he served in the same Christmas Island test," reported the Daily Telegraph.

TWO POSTERS — ONE STORY



Appropriately side by side on a Portsmouth poster board these two posters tell two phases of an unhappy story.

Photo: Rawlinson

★ What do you say? ★

Stockholm Conference

MR. WILLIAM CARYS' article, "Reflections on Stockholm" (Aug. 15), was no doubt directed to Americans such as myself for "prejudging" the Stockholm disarmament congress and thus refusing to attend.

I was especially invited to attend the Stockholm congress and seriously considered doing so. When I expressed doubts, a member of the secretariat of the World Peace Council suggested that I write an article for one of their journals. I did so, and this made me clarify my attitude toward the Congress, based partly on my attending the Third World Conference Against A- and H-bombs and For Disarmament in Tokyo in August, 1957.

I ended my article by suggesting that at this moment in history the most important thing an American can do is put pressure on his own government for peace. Also I admitted that I felt that the Stockholm congress would be too slanted in a pro-Communist direction by procedures and attendance for a creative, week-long dialogue for next steps to disarmament.

I still think my judgment was sound, or otherwise I would have attended, despite the sacrifice of time, money or reputation. (Incidentally, as far as I know, they never did publish my critical article!)

There is, admittedly, a need for Americans to work on a non-governmental level with the Communists for peace. There are several alternatives to attending the kind of congresses periodically sponsored by the World Peace Council. One alternative is to arrange for a peace delegation from American peace organisations to go directly to Russia as the British peace delegation did last spring. Another is for some private, responsible organisation in a neutralist nation, such as India, to take the initiative to call a world conference for serious, non-governmental discussions on disarmament, to which private organisations from both East and West could attend, and in the foreknowledge that it would not be slanted toward either East or West.

I feel that American pacifists should feel that no sacrifice is too great to support such projects where there could indeed be opportunity to talk peace with Communists.—**HOMER A. JACK, Evanston, U.S.A.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Aldermaston architect

IN canvassing the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Research Establishment we have heard of an architect who is not happy to be working in connection with the Establishment and would be interested to hear of alternative employment.

We should therefore be most grateful if anyone with information as to a possible alternative post would write in and let us know immediately. — **APRIL CARTER (Secretary), PAT ARROWSMITH (Field Organiser), Direct Action Committee Against Nuclear War, 344 Seven Sisters Road, London, N.4.**

Making peace

MARCHING, protesting, picketing, analysing Mrs. Brown and appealing to Mrs. O.M. all have their uses in the war to end war; and everyone must take part in the campaign according to his or her conscience and conviction.

But since war begins in the heart and mind of man, the urgency is to exorcise men's wrong or evil spirit rather than attack its manifestations; to eliminate the root, not only to destroy the growth.

For this purpose and since only spirit can deal with spirit, all members of the PPU should unite in the deeply difficult task of making peace rather than merely opposing war.

If we could achieve being truly at peace in ourselves and with others, and then learn to control and use and direct the united energy of our good spirit, we should be in possession of the most effective means of influencing mankind that has so far been used.

The plan of such a campaign cannot be detailed in a brief letter, but it would involve a self-giving as complete as any that Reginald Reynolds has in mind.—**LESLEY E. DAVIES, Dolwyddelan, N. Wales.**

A law Mrs. Brown breaks

REGINALD REYNOLDS' article was a shrewd summary of the present situation of many lovers of peace, and his three categories are only too true. He concludes by stressing that the answer lies in a greater understanding of the average man and woman, which he describes in terms of reading the map of Mrs. Brown.

But there are those who have already considered this and who have shown us that the innermost wheel of the mass of wheels within wheels lies in the breaking by Mr. and Mrs. Brown of a fundamental law, the law which states *Thou Shalt Not Kill*, not a determination not to kill if war came, not an intellectual article of belief, but the actual daily practice of not killing.

This involves vegetarianism and a refusal to support vivisection and allied evils. Mrs. Brown must take the one step possible to her—not to renounce world war (for while she is involved in killing herself this will inevitably colour her judgment); no, she must first take the step of living harmlessly, giving the mercy she hopes to receive. *Thou shalt not kill*, for blood will have blood.—**ANTHONY BATES, 2 Mare Rd., Kew, Richmond, Surrey.**

'Understandable' action

ALTHOUGH no doubt Dr. Soper was truthful in describing the murderous actions of the Iraqi revolutionaries as understandable, Winifred Cummings is surely right in directly deploring the assassinations.

Anyone who takes human life must be held individually responsible whatever the provocation or incitement. Similar, if not identical responsibility attaches to any party which, directly or indirectly, has urged or connived at the political or economic situation resulting in such murders.

I find inseparably guilty the individual assassins, the Iraqi revolutionary leaders and such Western powers as Britain which, so long as the oil flowed our way, set the seal of official approval on a cruel régime with a flattering royal reception of Iraq's late king and ministers.

It should be noted that the crocodile tears of the British Government dried as soon as Iraq's new régime undertook to observe its

predecessor's legal obligations to the West, and that Britain has eagerly swallowed the untrue story that the sacking of the British Embassy at Bagdad was due solely to the Iraqis getting out of hand.

Pacifists otherwise properly assessing the British share in the murderous happenings in Cyprus are too often inclined to take a similarly "realistic" understanding view of Cypriot murders of fellow Cypriots and British.

In the Middle East this year I personally observed happenings that were lyingly denied by British and American official radio news; but I found also that Turkish and Greek official news and views were equally unreliable, and that, for instance, Archbishop Markarios, who many pacifists regard as a righteous rebel, was as unscrupulously regardless of the truth of any situation and as ruthless an instigator of violence for the furtherance of purely political ambitions as is the Archbishop of any established Church you care to think of.

Pacifists had better remain simply true to their condemnation of all violence and refuse to countenance any "realistic" understanding which is so invariably a rationalisation of wrong-doing.—**SAM WALSH, 10, Stevenstone Court, St. Giles-in-the-Wood, Torrington, Devon.**

Abolishing war

ALTHOUGH I have been a reader of PN for some time, I have not written to you before. When I first took your paper, I thought that however admirable pacifism was in theory and logic, the practice seemed, well, impracticable. But the advent of nuclear war has caused me to indulge in some deep thinking.

Although I am not a complete pacifist because I believe that demands a self-discipline that I have not attained, I now believe that the problem we face is how to get rid of war altogether. To ban nuclear weapons is not enough because we cannot eradicate from the minds of men the knowledge of how these weapons are made. Therefore it seems that now I must support to the best of my ability organisations or people who like you aim at the rejection of war.

Some while ago I had to cut down rather ruthlessly on my intake of daily and weekly papers. But I found your paper remains on my priority list.—**F. C. RANGSTON, 212 Portman Bldgs., Lisson Grove, London, N.W.1.**

A voice from Japan

IT is already 13 years since Hiroshima. But very often people are still dying from the radio-activities of that bomb. We do not know when these deaths will be stopped. What exasperates us more is the continuation of tests of these bombs and from these bombs we are getting continuation of the "death ashes" while we are unaware of it.

Even in this morning's paper (Aug. 1) we saw the dreadful news of that caesium 137, the radio-active substance contained in the fall-out from the bombs.

We earnestly hope that people in your country rise up against the bombs and put a ban on them before it is too late. We youths here are firmly determined to help stop these terrible weapons, and if you too give us some promise for the same cause it would encourage us.

I am a member of YCIC, which promotes international understanding between youth of the world. I am seeking a chance to contact a pen friend in your country. I am 17 years old and my hobby is music.—**(Miss) TOMIKO KANEOKA, 1, Chome, Kurosaki, Fujita Yokomachi, Yawata City, Fukuoka-Ken, Japan.**

"PEACE IN OUR TIME"

is the theme of the Autumn issue of

KINGSWAY

(The Magazine of the West London Mission)

It includes articles by

**BENN LEVY
DONALD SOPER**

**RUTH FRY
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WHEN you write it down you keep adding on noughts. It doesn't matter whether the sign in front is \$ or £, you can be certain that following will be an array of noughts which makes a figure that ought to sound colossal seem just meaningless.

I refer, of course, to fortunes which periodically one reads of as having been spent, or as going to be spent, on "defence."

Fabulous sums, gigantic amounts, gargantuan figures are tossed hour by hour, day by day, year by year, to the ever-hungry programme that threatens to blow us all to smithereens.

That's how much is being spent on war. How much is being spent on peace?

Oh, yes, some is—a handful here and a morsel there. For peace, the money comes in trickles.

You can do your best to prevent the endless noughts behind the \$ and £ signs that the military machine devours; at the same time you can spend for peace by helping with PN Fund.

So help us with our noughts—only a modest three of them—to make that essential £2,000.

ASSISTANT EDITOR

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Anonymous contributions gratefully acknowledged: Anon. 5s. Anon. Camden Town 12s., P.W. Dunedin 5s., Anon £2.

Please make cheques, etc., payable to Peace News Ltd., and address them to Lady Clare Annesley, Joint Treasurer, Peace News, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.A.

Where the millions don't count

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER has approved a Bill which carries about \$1,000,000,000 (£357,000,000) more than he had thought necessary. The Bill was the Defence Appropriations Bill approved by the President on August 22.

His statement said he was seriously disturbed by a provision in the Bill blocking his proposal for a 10 per cent cut in the Army National Guard and the Army Reserves.

To help pay for defence and other programmes the Senate has passed a Bill raising the temporary Federal debt ceiling to \$288,000,000,000 (£103,000,000,000).

A JAPANESE film based on the actual story of a girl who was a victim of the Hiroshima A-bomb has been made. It is called "Paper Cranes." Sadako Sasaki, the heroine of the film, became ill in 1955. She was found to be suffering from leukaemia. Her classmates organised a party called the Party of Unity to encourage her.

Sadako came to believe that her disease would be cured and she would live when she had made a thousand paper cranes (the crane being a symbol of longevity in Japan. However, when she had made 643 cranes she died.

After her death her classmates started a movement to build a statue of peace as a memory of her and other young victims of the atomic disease. This movement developed in every school in Japan. The total cost of the statue of peace (£6,000) was raised by the children.

The film uses the real activities of the boys and girls in the "paper crane movement."

The statue of Sadako—From the Japanese film *Senbazuru*.

IKE'S SUSPEND TESTS PROPOSAL: A victory against the Pentagon

By Dr. HOMER JACK

AMERICAN peace workers were relieved, if not completely jubilant, over President Eisenhower's announcement of a readiness to suspend nuclear weapons tests.

While the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy held a special meeting of its executive committee in New York City at the very hour of the President's announcement and dispatched a telegram of congratulations to the President, it is realised that this was the beginning of its work, not the end.

The National Committee is calling a nation-wide conference on September 29 in New York City to determine whether it will continue its national operation and recommend that the more than 50 local chapters do likewise.

New programme

Indications are strong that it will continue since (1) the local groups seem to want to continue in any case and perhaps will do so under less politically sound leadership if the National Committee goes out of business; and (2) there is much public opinion in America yet to educate, both in keeping the Administration from resuming tests during the probable long and frustrating negotiations for a permanent agreement and in advocating the substantial next steps toward nuclear disarmament.

A new programme for the National Committee might include the major steps in the disarmament package plus nuclear disengagement and the international control of outer-space missiles.

Vindication

Those Americans who have been leading the fight for the suspension of atomic tests feel vindicated on three counts:

● Their fears of the hazards of radioactive fall-out to man were borne out by the UN Committee report, despite the "fall-out-is-negligible" theme of the Atomic Energy Commission;

● Their insistence that a monitored agreement is scientifically feasible was borne out by the recent Geneva agreements;

● Their conviction that the disarmament package could be broken to make testing a separate issue was borne out by the President's decision. This is a victory for Adlai Stevenson against the Pentagon, for Norman Cousins against Lewis Strauss, for Linus Pauling against Edward Teller, for Albert Schweitzer against the war machines of many nations.

Many in America regret the manner of the President's announcement. They wish

International students' action group

ON June 11, 1958, students of the University of Munich formed a new association, which in emulation of the traditional academical fellowships, has taken as its slogan "Pacifism be our watchword," and intends to confine its activities to work for peace.

It has given itself the name of International Students Action Group (International Studentischer Arbeitskreis—IAK) and although it is independent of the IdK (German Section of the War Resisters' International), it regards itself as IdK's small brother. The IAK is to be registered as a students' association at Munich University and hopes to form associated groups at the universities of Goettingen and Erlangen.

The IAK does not intend to be just another peace organisation, but desires to spread the pacifist message among university students. Its programme provides for non-violent action, meetings, discussion circles, peace camps and students' exchanges on an international basis.

Its first public appearance will be made in co-operation with the Munich committee against nuclear weapons on the occasion of an anti-nuclear vigil, to be followed by the distribution of leaflets and the publication of a pamphlet, reports *Friedensrundschau*, August, 1958.

Threat that failed at the air base

By JOHN BRAND

AT least 50,000 people were estimated to have seen the banners of vigilers outside the main gate of the Wethersfield air base which has recently been provided with nuclear weapons. The vigil was organised by Colchester CND as a direct protest against nuclear weapons to the British audience and was arranged to coincide with an open day at the base. The banners were the usual official posters, and some were carefully chosen so that not even the bitterest opponent could say the demonstration was anti-American. A usual slogan was "Britain must renounce her nuclear policy."

About 15 vigilers marched from Braintree eight and a-half miles away through the town and then into the beautiful north Essex countryside. It was arranged that the march would be done in twos, but towards the end traffic to the open day was so heavy that single file was adopted, and the vigilers streamed out for more than a mile.

March and vigil

This was at least as impressive as the previous method. The march took two and a-half hours, counting a half-hour for lunch, but no one complained of sore feet.

They arrived at the main gate soon after 12.30 p.m. and began the vigil immediately. The total number of people taking part was about 35 and the average number on duty throughout the afternoon was about 25. Most comments were derogatory, although there were some encouragers throughout the day.

There were few "incidents." The only one at all demanding special control was when an American drove near one of the vigilers and threatened to run him down. Christopher Kershaw remained where he was and acted in a friendly manner, and the American did not mount the kerb with his car, but later drove off into the base.

Chris is 19 and a CO doing alternative service in a hospital for incurables.

RELEASE THESE CHILDREN

—Doukhobors

A NEW appeal by the Sons of Freedom, a Canadian Doukhobor sect, for the immediate return of their children to their parents is contained in a petition to the British Columbia Provincial Government.

In the autumn of 1954 the British Columbia Government enforced the "Go-to-School Order of 1953" and seized 97 children of the Sons of Freedom who had kept them at home because they maintained the school curricula teach patriotism sanctioning war.

For almost five years now the parents have not seen their children who have been kept in New Denver School. The children are not happy and the parents are stricken with grief.

A Fact Finding Committee set up at the instigation of the 1957 Convention of The Union of Doukhobors of Canada—a separate and larger sect who do not oppose school attendance—recently recommended in its report the immediate release of the children and "the establishment of a special school for them near their homes."

The report suggests a suitable curriculum be prepared for these children by members of the Sons of Freedom, qualified professional members of the University of British Columbia, together with qualified members of the Union of Doukhobors of Canada.

The report also reveals that "prominent and fully integrated Doukhobor families in Saskatchewan suggested that the children be released and placed in their custody and care" soon after the children had been sent to New Denver but that the suggestion received no positive consideration.

This is the second Committee to be set up by the Doukhobors, who are of Russian origin.



The statue of Sadako—From the Japanese film *Senbazuru*.

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Bring China into UN

IT IS BECOMING increasingly apparent that the greatest threat to world peace is the attitude of the US Government. The most dangerous aspect of this attitude is its irrational and psychopathic relationship to the Government of China.

The US Government's concern for democratic practice is not usually allowed to stand in the way of the Governments with which it wants dealings. There was little that was democratic about the former Government of Iraq. There is nothing democratic about the Governments of Saudi Arabia and Jordan. The US Government finds nothing to prevent it from diplomatically recognising these Governments.

When the Iraqi Government was overthrown and replaced by revolutionary action the United States took four days to recognise the new Government. It has yet to be seen whether this Government will proceed on more democratic lines than its predecessor—this has not prevented its representatives being accepted by the United Nations.

★ ★

IT cannot be the undemocratic nature of the Chinese Government that prevents its recognition by the US. Nor can it be the fact that it established itself by armed force.

What separates the US attitude to China from that of the majority of other Governments of the world is not conditions obtaining in China but conditions obtaining in the United States; that the unhealthy state of public opinion in the US in this matter is permitted to throw the whole of the world's international relationships out of gear is becoming intolerable. It is the duty of those Governments allied with the United States to make this clear.

★ ★

THE unhealthy state of public opinion in the US towards China is the result of a propaganda campaign fostered by the wealthy chauvinistic interests that finance the "China Lobby"—Texas oil tycoons, Aramco shareholders, those drawing dividends from armament manufacture, and the wealthy groups whose organ of expression is the US News and World Report.

The influence of these interests on Government opinion is shown by the astonishing lack of proportion that the US State Department reveals when it discusses the threat of the Chinese Government to Chiang Kai-shek's forces on Quemoy and Matsu.

The State Department has described these threats as "stark reminders of Peking's militarism and aggressive expansionism." That a government that has spread its military bases all round the world can describe the Chinese concern at the bellicose activities of Chiang Kai-shek's forces on two islands so near to the Chinese mainland is a striking indication of its willingness to close its eyes to realities.

In 1955, when there were similar incidents, it was the restraint of the Chinese Government that permitted the crisis to subside. The US Government has wasted the three years in which it might have faced its pensioner Chiang with the fact that his claims could not be backed by a war between the US and China and Russia. We must hope that the Peking Government will again exercise a similar restraint, but it is becoming increasingly important that the rest of the world should take a hand in this matter.

★ ★

THE present crucial position of international negotiations makes it preposterous that a Government of 600 million people should have no recognised part in them.

It is to be hoped that the Governments will now attempt to limit the number of H-bomb powers. It is an impossible assumption that the Chinese Government, excluded from UN, will consent to arrangements which preclude its own future equipment with these weapons while other powers like the US, Russia, Great Britain and possibly France retain them.

Similarly, if the plan formulated by the Geneva Conference of nuclear scientists is to be put into operation a high proportion of the 37 detection posts needed in Asia will have to be in China. It is possible that the Peking Government will be prepared to accept these, but there is no reason why it should do so as an outlaw Government.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT COULD HELP THE US GOVERNMENT TO OVERCOME THE IRRESPONSIBILITY OF ITS WEALTHY "BACKWOODSMEN" IF IT WERE NOW TO LEAD A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN TO BRING CHINA INTO UN.

Racial Prejudice

SPEAKING of an incident during the race troubles at Nottingham, the Nottingham Chief Constable said: "The crowd were drifting away very quietly when a cameraman, most irresponsibly, let off a magnesium flare which immediately brought hundreds of people rushing back to the scene thinking it was a fire."

The rebuke given to this cameraman might very well be considered by the mass media in general.

Racial violence is most readily resorted to by dim-witted and suggestible people. As we have already observed in Britain in the Fascist development of anti-semitism before the war there are those with sufficient evil in their egos to be ready to use this kind of racial prejudice as a means to the enhancement of their own power at the expense of suffering for humble people.

A stupid drunken fight between two white men is just a stupid drunken fight; when such a fight takes place between a white man and a coloured man there are all too many ignorant people who are ready to make some silly generalisation on racial lines and turn a piece of common disorderliness into a bloody racial conflict.

The mass media can help to extend or to reduce this infection according to whether or not the sense of responsibility of those who serve it is greater than that of the Nottingham cameraman.

That Governor Faubus of Arkansas and the spokesmen for South African apartheid policy should display their satisfaction that Britain is having to face the problem of racial violence need not trouble us. What should make us ashamed would be an attempt to deal with a problem that is rooted in undeveloped intelligences by the kind of restrictions on immigration advocated in a local bi-partisan policy by the Nottingham Conservative and Labour MPs.

More than race prejudice is, of course, involved. Nobody can be satisfied with a society in which there is a constant fear of unemployment, in which the "possession" of women is a symbol of prestige and in which some people have an emotional need to be cruel to others. Our main task is to create a society that does not have such unpleasant characteristics.

French 'referendum'

"WHY should I begin a career as a dictator at the age of 67?" asked General de Gaulle at his first Press conference after the coup d'etat engineered by the French army officers and colonists in Algeria. Why, indeed? Although it does not seem that there is generally a decline in men's egotism as they climb their sixties.

What could obviously give a man a sense of satisfaction in the concluding years of his life would be a sense that he had made a major contribution in lifting his country out of growing difficulties that were besetting it, bringing it stability, and setting it firmly on a happier path.

It is likely to be such a satisfaction that de Gaulle is seeking, but, should he live into his seventies, it is doubtful in the extreme whether he will find that it is a satisfaction that is likely to be gratified. For there is a considerable likelihood that he will have given France something worse than a dictator.

After all, when, a hundred years ago, Louis Napoleon put through the plebiscite that gave him a dictatorship over France, that was all he did. When de Gaulle takes his vote—"Oui" or "Non"—on Sept. 28 he will do something more; and unfortunately something that may bring worse consequences in the future. What Frenchmen (whether they have made themselves politically informed or not) and Algerians (whether they have been taught to read or not) will be asked to declare for or against will be an elaborately involved constitution embodying important new procedures and endowing the French President with very great powers indeed.

It is taken for granted that de Gaulle will be the first President, and it requires no special powers of perception to see that the greater part of the votes will be cast for or against de Gaulle and will have little relationship to the character of the new constitution which, after all, will only be possible of rejection at the cost of leaving France without any acceptable form of government at all.

When the voters give their overwhelmingly affirmative majority, therefore, as there is little doubt they will, they will not only have selected a man of whom they approve, but they will also have landed themselves willy-nilly with a constitution that may outlive him and may come to be dominated by a successor who will not be asking "Why should I begin a career as a dictator?" but will be actually beginning it.

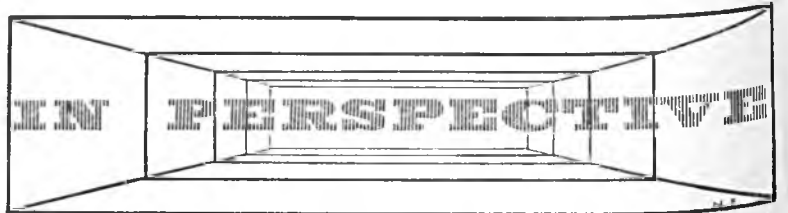
Hope from Geneva

GOOD news at last in the field of international relationships. The Russian Government, following the Pravda article on the subject, has sent its official acceptance of the proposal to begin discussions on October 31 with the US and British Governments on

the possibility of an agreement on the cessation of atomic bomb tests and the establishment of a system of control for the effective operation of such an agreement. It is proposed that the meeting shall be in Geneva. Immediately following this acceptance a different kind of conference opened at Geneva to discuss problems arising from the utilisation of nuclear energy. This is the second international conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and it is held under the aegis of the United Nations.

At this conference the US and British Governments announced that they would make available the results of their researches into nuclear fusion, and this was followed by the announcement of a Russian decision to make a gift to the conference (which is attended by 5,000 scientists) of four volumes containing more than a hundred scientific papers dealing with different aspects of atomic research.

With the possibility of the prohibition of atomic tests for the service of militarist ends and the fruitful opening of consultations for extending knowledge on the possibilities of making peaceful and productive use of atomic energy the powers may begin to set out on the road toward peace and the improvement of the lot



of mankind. Whether they will actually succeed in these efforts will depend upon their willingness to put an end to the power struggle, to overcome the habit of thinking in "cold war" terms, and to substitute for the division of the world into antagonistic blocs a tolerant acceptance of the need for co-existence with a view to the development of this kind of co-operation.

Egypt after Suez

IT may be hoped that the appropriate department of the British Foreign Office is making some effort today to rid itself of some of the personal animus against Colonel Nasser that has hitherto been displayed in British policy.

The form of government of which Colonel Nasser is head is not one we like, but this also applies to a considerable number of other governments with which Britain contrives to maintain friendly relationships. In fact, if the actions of Colonel Nasser's Government since the Franco-British attack on Egypt are examined it would seem to have displayed a moderation and reasonableness that might well be followed with profit by the greater powers.

Since the nationalisation of the Suez Canal there has been an efficient and considerate administration of this international waterway; none of the dire consequences prophesied by French and British jingoists has followed. An acceptable settlement has been entered into with the shareholders in the canal company. There has been a ready willingness to undo as much as possible of the damage done in the counter-measures to the Franco-British invasion that resulted in the expulsion of foreigners from Egypt and the confiscation of properties. A satisfactory agreement covering all the points at issue has been entered into between Egypt and France, and it is evident that Britain would do well to settle its differences with the Egyptian Government and renew diplomatic recognition.

Perhaps the most striking thing is that it was the Arab group in the United Nations with the full participation of Egypt, after unavailing attempts from various quarters to reach an agreed resolution on the subject of the US and British action in Lebanon and Jordan, that provided the proposal on the subject that resulted in a unanimous favourable vote, a very exceptional happening in the UN Assembly. This says a good deal for the conciliatory capacity of those who sponsored the proposal.

It is possible that if the Egyptian Government were no longer to find itself existing in an atmosphere of hostility it would become more easy for it to bring an end to the violent demagoguery of utterance which—in common with Saudi Arabia and the other Arab Governments—it directs against the State of Israel. It is worth trying.

Future Golden Age

THERE is no danger of the destruction of all life on this planet if the US and Russia are not able to find any other way than nuclear war to bring an end to the cold war.

There is a class of animal life known as nematoda. Some of these, although not all, are parasitic on animals or plants. Experiments conducted by the US Department of Agriculture have shown that although it takes only 650 roentgens of radio-activity to kill a human being there are forms of the plant-parasite nematoda that can survive up to 640,000 roentgens. Outstanding among these is the worm-like plant-parasite that is most felicitously named the golden nematode.

So there may be a golden age, after all.

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Lambeth and peace

By CANON T. B. SCRUTTON
Chairman, Anglican Pacifist Fellowship

THE Lambeth Conference consisted of some 300 Anglican Bishops from 46 countries: 128 from America, 75 from Europe, 38 from Africa, 31 from Asia, 26 from Australasia. The largest number from any country was 89 from the USA.

The Report consists of an Encyclical Letter (14 pages), 131 Resolutions (29 pages), A Statement on Peace (1 page) and 5 reports of Committees (160 pages). Each Committee Report represents only the opinion of that Committee.

1948 REPORT

Problems of Peace and War (including the H-bomb) are directly dealt with in only 7 of the 131 Resolutions (Nos. 104-110) and in only 27 of the 204 pages. Any reader of Peace News who thinks this allocation inadequate may be reminded that the Conference meets only once in 10 years and has much else to discuss, also that quantity is less important than quality.

Those 27 pages might well have been powerful enough to start a great lifting of the burden of fear and suspicion now vexing mankind. The Lambeth Report of 1948 was issued before the H-bomb sharpened our problems, but its words sometimes bite: "Christians must hate war and everything that makes for it as utterly incompatible with the Christian faith."

It is preferable, it asks us what is right? Next, "So long as such weapons exist, the bombs do not exist outside our control, like thunderstorms."

A BLAND REMARK

"They first existed by our choice, when two nations, to which the majority of us belong dropped them on our fellow-men; if our countries they exist at our command; at their use is repugnant to the Christian conscience, surely their preparation is forbidden by God?"

The pacifist may be grateful that his sincere conviction is mentioned without condemnation (2.125). He cannot but be disappointed at the tone of these sections of the Report. The need for a challenge to public opinion appears from a bland remark in the Times leader on the Report (26.8.58): "It was well known before Lambeth that all Christians detested the idea of nuclear bombing." This detestation may pass as a "well known" in the Times office. It is utterly fictitious.

Applied to themselves all men detest nuclear weapons; applied by themselves to certain others, far too many Christians approve them. I fear the Bishops have done little to discourage that approval.

ASTONISHING PARAGRAPH

I can find no such bite in the 1958 Report. The Conference says (1.20): "We and wish the main Conference had under responsibility for inflicting untold suffering by sanctioning nuclear bombing" (2.125). We may be thankful for this mild reminder, but the Committee (not the main Conference) are to consider their responsibility for inflicting untold suffering by sanctioning nuclear bombing" (2.125).

The world crisis has moved from the Middle East to the Far East. The American navy cruises off Formosa instead of Lebanon.

It is time the nations told America that its refusal to recognise Republican China and its support of the refugee government in Formosa has become intolerable, that it is against all international practice and that it is a menace to the peace of the world.

The Quemoy group of islands which, thanks to American armament, the "Nationalist rebels" hold, are indisputably a part of China.

"It is privately admitted here," the Washington correspondent wrote, "that the Nationalists do harass the Chinese coast with the aircraft supplied to them by the United States, and this fact, with the emphasis Peking is putting on such provocations, might make it difficult for the United States to claim that in intervening on behalf of Nationalist outposts it was only resisting an aggressive move against Formosa."

Republican China is evidently in the mood to challenge, not only America's maintenance of the refugee government in Formosa, but the farcical UN representation of the Chinese people by that government and its own exclusion from the council of the world.

It is not a matter of endorsing the Communist regime. It is a matter of recognising that the Republican Government is the de facto government. It administers nearly its peoples are greater in number than the peoples of America and Russia combined. It is an insult that the Formosa puppet should speak and vote for them not only in the General Assembly but as one of the Great Powers in the Security Council.

This injustice should be put right in the forthcoming meeting of the United Nations. There is no doubt that a majority of the Member States desire Republican China to take its rightful place. Why should they be intimidated by America?

KEY TO PEACE

Britain has recognised Republican China. It should take the lead in defying America on this issue. The Labour and Liberal Parties, speaking for most of the people of Britain, should declare immediately and emphatically that the British delegates should move at the General Assembly that Republican China be admitted.

The problems of the Cold War and nuclear rivalry will not be resolved whilst China is boycotted. We shall not have a Summit Conference so long as China is treated as an Unapproachable. This is now the key to peace.

Before we can take any further step towards international co-operation we must take and turn the key, open the door, and welcome China to the fraternity of nations.

RACE CLASH

I read with shame, the reports of the physical clash between "whites" and "blacks" in Nottingham. Racialists in South Africa and America will gloat. The British people will seem hypocrites when we denounce apartheid and the Little Rock high school exclusions.

But the Nottingham clash is not typical.

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Act against H-bomb first

SURPRISE visitor to Hornchurch (Essex) was Herr Rudolf Brennecke, youth delegate from the German Section of the War Resisters' International.

He had read of the meeting in Peace News and told the meeting that he had been attending a conference in London. He had also been to Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park, and was very impressed with the freedom of speech in this country. He came from West Germany where there were "many restrictions."

Nevertheless, a strong Peace Movement was being built up over there, and he promised to convey greetings from the Hornchurch Way to Peace Group. Our last task, he said, must be against the H-bomb. He hoped to visit both Russia and China in the near future before paying a return visit to Britain, when plans would be made for him to address another meeting in the district.

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Will Labour introduce a peace economy?

By Dr. Francis Rona

As we have often suggested in our editorial columns, too little thought is given to the possibility of peace "breaking out." In view of the forthcoming Labour Party Conference and of the development of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, we publish this article as a contribution to a "peace policy."

LITTLE attention was given in the Budget debate, or in the "Economic Survey 1958" (Cmd. 394) to facts concerning Britain's armaments burden.

The red herring of "inflation" has dominated the discussion, but the real cost of "military strength"—in other words economic weakness, declining share in world trade and the drain on gold and dollar reserves—has scarcely been mentioned.

The predominant issues in Britain's economy were described by Mr. Harold Wilson, Labour's shadow Chancellor, in the Daily Herald, April 15, in his article, "What Would Labour Do?"

"We have repeatedly insisted . . . (on) a high level economic conference aimed at strengthening the financial basis of world trade, expanding world development and planning the supply and prices of primary foodstuffs and raw materials . . .

"Britain herself needs to take the lead in proposing plans for Commonwealth development and reducing, so far as possible, our dependence on the dollar area."

The attainment of these laudable aims, however, is obviously impossible while the arms drive continues on its present scale.

Even now Britain is spending over 10 per cent of her national income, nearly £1,500,000,000, for military purposes annually, including H-bomb development. (Cmd. 363).

Arms cost concealed

YET in the "Economic Survey 1958" the impact of the huge rearmament programme on production and exports is carefully concealed. Not one word on the significance of armaments expenditure to Britain's economy can be found there. No relevant statistical data are given.

Much more sincerity was shown in the White Paper on Defence 1954 (Cmd. 9075, p. 4): "Defence will thus continue to impose a heavy burden on our economy in terms both of the Budget and the balance of payments."

In the second half of 1957, West Germany replaced Britain as the second largest exporter of manufactured goods after the USA.

Also, as the Financial Times of March 28 points out, Japan, having a light armaments burden, can be expected to increase her share substantially.

The reason for Britain's declining share had already been frankly stated in the Statement on Defence, 1954 (p. 4): "The task of expanding our exports still further will not be eased by the continuing need to devote to defence production a substantial part of our engineering industry."

The present precarious position was outlined in the "Economic Survey 1958," which listed three "grounds for anxiety:

- (1) "Most of the trading countries are losing gold, therefore they may cut imports.
- (2) "There is a substantial fall in certain commodity prices . . . imposing a strain on trade balances of some countries.
- (3) "World industrial production is likely to be lower in the first half of 1958 than in January 1957; because of the recession in the United States."

No cure for US recession

AS for the USA's increase in military expenditure "to secure total peace" (as Eisenhower said in his "Message to Congress," January 9), obviously this will increase rather than relieve America's economic instability, owing to misdirection of productive resources.

In Britain, too, the high cost of defence is a handicap on trade, in that it limits the accumulation of capital for investments at home and abroad which is needed for improved productivity and higher living standards.

The "Survey 1958" explains that "nearly all countries in the Sterling Area have suffered a loss of export earnings, and these earnings may stay relatively depressed until world activity starts rising."

And it adds: "Some of them have been obliged to enforce drastic limitation upon

their imports." A decline of British exports is the result.

Further, the unsettled problem of the European Free Trade Area, where competitive forces will predominate, and the increase of capital exports by Germany and USSR, will also aggravate Britain's position.

The rearmament folly of the West, under the foolish slogan "negotiation from strength," has deprived USA and Britain of the means to provide substantial assistance to "misery areas."

The "rich" countries have about 15 per cent of the world's population, but hold 62 per cent of the world's fortunes; whereas the "have-nots," with about 54 per cent of the human race, have a total equipment of only nine per cent of the world's total.

The widening gap in income distribution is the underlying cause of conflicts and revolts.

The Marshall Plan provided about \$12 milliards (about £4,500 mds.), of which Britain received over £1,000,000,000. No such assistance has been given to raise living standards in "misery areas"; but the 15 NATO States spent £21,300,000,000 for "defence" in 1957 alone.

No aid without arms cuts

MR GAITSKELL has repeatedly declared that the next Labour Government will offer one per cent of Britain's national income (i.e. about £150,000,000) to assist under-developed countries. Owing to present strains on Britain's economy, however, resources can only be diverted by drastic cuts in military expenditure.

But if the present arms bill of £1,500,000,000 was reduced by only 10 per cent, the means of assistance could be offered without any additional burden for taxpayers.

Commonwealth development and capital exports to under-developed areas outside the Sterling Area are inter-connected economic problems. A development plan on a world-wide scale would provide new opportunities for trade expansion and for an increase in Britain's industrial production

—the rate of increase of which is the lowest in Europe.

The colonies, with 70,000,000 people, cannot buy the bare necessities if the present wage—and income-levels (about 15s. average per week)—are not raised considerably.

Clearly, if the next Labour Government wishes to build up a lasting peace economy, the present armament policy must be re-examined, otherwise the present planless drift will lead to new crises, falling production and speculative setbacks on the exchange rate of sterling.

A "Three P's Programme"—Peace, Prosperity and Expanding Production—could ensure Labour's victory at the next election. But the concept of a Welfare State must be extended to Britain's colonies and to the world's "misery areas."

International co-operation is an absolutely necessary condition for peaceful co-existence.

It is urgently necessary that Labour implement the programme suggested by a group of MPs in the Peace News pamphlet (1954)—"We must now start waging peace," for it is indeed true, as that pamphlet states, that "there could be no hopeful future unless mankind could soon begin to make a co-operative attack on world poverty."

PRISONERS FOR A NIGHT

By Ernest Bromley

This is the second part of "A Week in the AEC Lobby," a serial in four parts that began last week. It tells the story of the attempt of a group of Americans to get interviews with Admiral Strauss, who was at that time head of the Atomic Energy Commission, and with the Commissioners. In the first instalment Ernest Bromley told how they had to travel from Washington out to the new AEC plant in an effort to get an interview with Admiral Strauss. They arrived on Wednesday afternoon, May 7.

WE sat in the lobby and looked around us. In some ways the lobby was like a hotel with the lobby desk and phone. Maybe it was because most of us were seasoned peace campaigners that it reminded us also of a jail. Guards patrolled the lobby. Every move we made was watched.

To the rear of the lobby was a mezzanine some half a dozen steps higher than the lobby floor. From it doors led to the offices and rest rooms. Anyone who walked up there to use the drinking fountain was followed by an armed guard.

Half an hour went by. Nothing. We went to the desk again. Another half hour.

Finally word came down that we could see a man from Personnel. I think his name was Salisbury. Ted Olson expressed our concern about bomb testing and told him we hoped to see policy makers, especially Mr. Strauss. The man told us the Admiral was extremely busy, in conference, and would not be able to see us.

"Will you tell him we are here?" Ted Olson asked.

"No, I will not. I said he is too busy to see you."

Police cars arrive

We went back to the lobby and sat down to wait. Through the glass at the front we could see what was happening outside, and about 4 p.m. three Montgomery County Police Patrol cars drew up in front of the building. Security officers went out and conferred with the policemen.

We had anticipated that there might be trouble and had agreed on N. Street that in the event of ejection or arrest we would not walk but would have to be carried or dragged from the building, for we would not leave voluntarily until we felt we had achieved our mission. If arrested we would accept no bail, and if in court we would represent ourselves. We wanted no lawyer to intervene between ourselves and the judge. Somewhat to our surprise the police cars pulled away and the security officers came back inside.

About this time a Columbia Broadcasting Service cameraman came into the lobby and began snapping pictures of us and asking questions. He was soon stopped by security officials who detained him for nearly an hour before allowing him to leave with his pictures.

At 5.50 a security head named Brosnan, I think, came over and warned us that at

6.15 the passage to rest rooms and drinking water would be locked and the building would be locked at 6.30.

The next move was ours, they thought. But we merely sat. At 6.15 the passage was blocked. We continued to sit. At 6.30 we were "prisoners."

Few of us had slept the night before and we were exhausted. We began preparing to spend the night by spreading newspapers on the granite block floor and placing the 12 seat cushions from the four leather divans on the papers. This would accommodate eight of the ten of us.

A security officer came up and forbade this, saying the floor blocks were rough and would cut the leather of the cushions.

We put them back. Half an hour later the guard came back and said we could put the cushions on the floor to sleep on. We put them back on the floor.

At 8.15 the night security officer announced Mr. Strauss had phoned him that he was sorry he had not been able to see us in the afternoon. Possibly tomorrow. The man seemed genuinely concerned for our comfort.

Camera at the window

He wanted to send out for coffee and sandwiches for us. We thanked him, but declined. "We have a TV on the next floor. Would you like us to bring it for you?" Some of us were baseball fans, so it was a tempting offer, but we were there on a different concern, and were not interested. The man said it was breaking regulations, but in our case he would take down the rope between us and the rest rooms. We said O.K. He then placed two desk telephones at our disposal for any District Columbia calls (35c in the 'phone booth).

Through the night there were armed guards patrolling the building and others at the lobby desk taking calls. A call came through for us, and Ted Olson, as spokesman for the group, took it. It was the UP wanting to take pictures. Since we were locked in, this presented difficulties, but about 10.30 we saw a camera out there.

It stayed for 25 minutes, apparently working through plate glass window, with the help of the interior lighting. Flash bulbs might have caught the glare of the windows. Shortly after this the officers offered to dim the lights. We accepted.

Thursday, May 8.—Early that day we began to receive Press calls via the lobby phones. CBS and Fox Movietone set up TV news equipment in the lobby and newsmen from many papers were interviewing us. Ted and Dave Dellinger acted as our contact men.

At 11 a.m. we were told we could have an interview with John Magruder, administrative assistant to Mr. Strauss. When we went into the Conference Room we found with him Harry Traynor, Assistant General Manager of the Plant and Shelby Thompson, Deputy Director, Division of Information.

It was a good, lively talk, with everyone given a chance to express his concern. Mr. Magruder made it clear that he felt nuclear testing was not harmful. He said that Mr. Strauss was a sincere man and a humanitarian and that he had been on the Board of the National Conference of Christians and Jews for years.

Three mothers join us

Someone ventured that his humanitarian activities and his nuclear testing activities were contradictory. He seemed a bit disturbed at this point and quoted from the Bible, "Judge not that ye be not judged." One of our group told him that this was not a matter of judging people but of judging two practices which seemed to us somewhat contradictory.

A 1 p.m. three mothers joined us, Marjorie Swann, Dorothy Hutchinson and Lillian Willoughby, wife of George Willoughby, then under injunction with three others of the Golden Rule crew in Judge Wiig's court in Honolulu. With Lillian was her eight-year-old son, Alan, youngest of her four children.

Mr. Magruder had said at the end of the conference that he would report our concerns to the five AEC Commissioners, seeming to think this would be sufficient news to send us home. But our unannounced position was that we would accept any interviews which would come our way, but that we had come for the purpose of meeting face-to-face with the policy makers of nuclear testing. Thus, our reply was, "Report to them and let us know what they say." He agreed.

When the women came in we were receiving a proposal from the Commission that one of our group meet one of the Commissioners on Monday. We were not interested.

(To be continued.)

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LIVING IN THE FACE OF DEATH

By Alan Lovell

THE Swedish film "The Seventh Seal" is now showing at the Berkeley Cinema, Tottenham Court Road. Directed by Ingmar Bergman, it is one of the most impressive films ever made.

Bergman said that when he was making the film the threat of the H-bomb was constantly in his mind. His film tells the story of the experiences of a knight and his squire who return from a fourteenth century Crusade to a Sweden that is haunted by the plague.

On the seashore the knight meets Death. He gains a respite by persuading Death to play chess with him for his soul. The game takes place as the knight travels to his home.

The story is a "Pilgrim's Progress" set in a time when death impends everywhere for everybody.

While the characters are presented realistically, they are used symbolically. The knight, the squire, and the people they meet on their journeys, the strolling artist and the servant girl, express different attitudes to life.

The knight is a symbol of the self-questioning intellectual. He is in constant search of truth, but the search and the questioning have made him a little inhuman since he can never be at peace with himself. Faced with the burning of a young girl as a witch, he can do little positive and only ask more questions.

The squire is the reverse of the knight, and symbolises a positive acceptance of life. Throughout the film he grows in stature. When the witch is burnt and the knight asks whether the devil she claims to have seen does, in fact, exist, the squire replies firmly: "Why didn't you ask me? I could have told you that there was nothing there."

And when the knight and the squire and their company are at last faced with Death, in face of the terrors of the others, the squire affirms that the most important thing in life is "to feel the joy of living."

The strolling players, a husband and wife and their baby, symbolise the innocents who because of their very innocence escape death. Their innocence is beautifully created in a scene where the knight meets the players and they sit on the grass to eat strawberries and cream while the player sings his songs, and the baby plays.

The world that these characters live in is a terrifying world. Not only is physical death present, but death is present in every living activity. The painter in the church paints horrific pictures of death to frighten the people. Witches are very easily burnt. In the middle of a performance by the players, a procession of people, whipping and beating themselves, passes.

They are urged on by a fanatical priest

History of the atomic scientists

Brighter than a Thousand Suns, by Robert Jungk. Gollancz and Hart Davis, 21s.

IT is not often that PN reviews books in languages other than English, since it is not known how high a proportion of its highly intelligent readers are fluent linguists. Occasionally, however, there is published a book so important that attention should be drawn to its appearance, and its contents summarised and examined, even though few may be able to obtain or read the original. This was the case last year when Peace News reviewed Heller als tausend Sonnen, by Robert Jungk, published in Berne (Switzerland).

Now two British publishers are associated in the issue of an English translation by James Cleugh of this "Moral and Political History of the Atomic Scientists" which Bertrand Russell describes as one of the most exciting books he has ever read, "More exciting than any novel, and, at the same time, packed with information which is both new and valuable. It is," he adds, "a tragic story. . . ." Which is only too true.

who tells them that their sin has brought on the plague. Finally, the knight and his companions are led off by Death in a macabre dance.

Bergman suggests that the plague is not only terrifying because of the people it kills but even more so because of the way that the fear of death inhibits people's attitudes, making them unbalanced and cruel. The lesson for our time is very clear.

It would be wrong, however, to conclude this review on such a negative note. For the tremendous strength of this film is that in face of such a terrible world it celebrates "the joy of living." In the face of our terrible dangers, it is a challenge to us to do the same.

Two Quaker testimonies

THE Quaker Peace Testimony Restated (6d.) is the substance of an address given this year to the London Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends by Richard K. Ullmann, now published as a pamphlet. It is a thoughtful word.

Perhaps he went too far in saying "Are we not exhausting our energies in actions for the prevention of war, the reduction of armaments, the resistance to a potential invader, the opposition to non-pacifists, the protest against government policies. . . . Our testimony is no testimony of prevention, reduction, resistance, opposition and protest."

Many will feel that these things are an essential part of the witness to the testimony: George Fox certainly would! Being involved in these things, however, one needs to be constantly reminded that they are only right as they spring spontaneously from "a tremendously positive response to the promptings of love, goodness, purity and truth."

If they do not, then pacifist action can, indeed, be accompanied by fanaticism and resentment, though the author is perhaps overstating his case again when he remarks that it often is.

Quaker Testimony against Slavery and Racial Discrimination (2s.) is an anthology compiled by Stella Alexander. It is divided into two sections. The first quotes from the works of individual Quakers during the last 300 years; the second from statements and epistles from meetings and conferences, the corporate witness of the Society. It is, unfortunately, only too relevant.

Gandhi's experiments

An Autobiography, The story of my Experiments with Truth, by M. K. Gandhi, Navajivan Publ. House 5s. Housmans, England.

EVEN in these days of cheap paperbacked literature, it is something unusual to get 400 pages, large demy octavo size, for 5s. Especially when the book is as important and fascinating as An Autobiography, by Mahatma Gandhi, who subtitled this record of his life and thought The Story of my Experiments with Truth. It was first published in two volumes in 1927 in Gujarati and sold over 50,000 copies. An English translation appeared serially in Young India, but when it was published in book form the price was such that many poor Indians could not afford it, so a cheap edition, now reprinted, was issued. Paper-backed, it costs only two rupees (5s. in Britain), or with board covers and a cloth spine three rupees (7s. 6d.).

The book has been reviewed many times. It reflects in every way the man who wrote it: naive but shrewd, revealing yet giving rise to many questions that one would like to ask, devout but eminently practical. It would be quite inadequate to say that every pacifist ought to have a copy and study it. Everybody, pacifist or not, should do so.

DIARY

As this is a free service we reserve the right to select for publication notices sent in. We nevertheless desire to make it as complete a service as we reasonably can, and therefore urge organisers of events to:

1. Send notices to arrive not later than Mon. a.m.
2. Include Date, TOWN, Time, Place (hall street); nature of event, speakers, organisers (and secretary's address).

Friday, September 5
LONDON, S.W.6: 10.30 a.m. and 1.15 p.m. Fulham Town Hall, CO Tribunal.

Monday, September 8
BIRMINGHAM: 8 p.m. 221 Vicarage Road, Kings Heath. Meeting of Kings Heath and Cotteridge PPU. All welcome.

Wednesday, September 10
MANCHESTER: 7.30 p.m. 36 Coleridge Rd., Old Trafford, Manchester Central PPU mtg.

UXBRIDGE: 7.45 p.m. Central Hall. Sir Richard Acland, John Horner, CND.

Thursday, September 11
HARROW: 8 p.m. Labour Hall, Railway Approach, Wealdstone. "Disarmament or Nuclear War." Frank Beswick, MP, Dr. Butt. Chair: Merlin Rees.

LONDON, E.11: Friends Meeting House, Bush Rd., Leytonstone (nr. Green Man) Michael Randle "Is Pacifism Irrelevant?" PPU.

Saturday, Sept. 13
FAVERSHAM, Kent: 3.30 p.m. Baptist School Room, St. Mary's Road. South-East Area meeting. Bring and Buy Stall: tea provided, please bring sandwiches, etc. to pool. Speaker: Minnie Pallister, PPU.

FAVERSHAM, Kent: 6.30 p.m. Baptist School Room, St. Mary's Road. Open Forum: "Peace in the Atomic Age." Minnie Pallister, Sybil Morrison, Stuart Morris. Chairman: Norman E. Blake. S.E. Area PPU.

Monday, September 15
LONDON, W.C.1: 6 p.m. Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh St., J. Allen Skinner "The Social Implications of Pacifism." Refreshments (note change of meeting place), Central London PPU.

SHEFFIELD: 7.45 p.m. 360 Crookesmoor Rd. Stuart Morris on his recent visit to Russia. PPU.

WIMBLEDON, S.W.19: 7.45 p.m. 31 Parkwood Rd., (off Alexander Rd.) Group plans and activities. Wimbledon PPU.

Thursday, September 18
LEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Bush Rd., London, E.11. Terence Chivers: "Is pacifism getting across?" PPU, E.10 and E.11 Group.

PALMERS GREEN, London, N.13: 8 p.m. 33 Devonshire Road. Group meeting PPU.

Friday, September 19
LONDON, S.W.6: 10.30 a.m. and 1.15 p.m. Fulham Town Hall, CO Tribunal.

UPMINSTER: 8 p.m. St. Mary's Lane School (nr. Bell). "What I Heard at the Stockholm Peace Congress." Dave Goodman. Hornchurch "Way to Peace" Group.

Monday, September 22
LONDON, S.W.1: 10.30 a.m. and 2.15 p.m. Ebury Bridge Hse., Ebury Bridge Rd., CO Appellate Tribunal.

Wednesday, September 24
CLAPHAM, S.W.4: 7.45 p.m. 27 Clapham Park Rd. (Clapham Labour Party HQ). Ian D. Jones of SPG, Clapham & Dist. PPU.

RUGBY: 7.30 p.m. Co-operative Small Hall, Chapel Street. Public Forum: "International Affairs." Panel: James Johnston, MP, John Campbell, Sybil Morrison, Stuart Morris; Chair: Raymond Rowe. PPU.

Thursday, September 25
Walthamstow, E.17: Wood St., Congregational Church, Vallentin Rd., Public Forum. CND.

Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28
BRIDLINGTON: "Southbay" Guest Hs., 11 Pembroke Terrace. Yorkshire Area Weekend School. Details from Mrs. C. M. Bulmer, 21 Westfield Cottages, Gildersome, Leeds. PPU.

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'LITTLE CLANS' VERSUS

The new barbarism

DESCRIBING the present age as "an upthrust into barbarism," Dr. Iorwerth C. Peate pleaded for the study of the "little clan," and the "little nations" when he addressed the anthropology section of the British Association on Monday.

As President of the section he devoted his address to the study of folk life and its part in the defence of civilisation.

The twin barbarisms of East and West were threatening to reduce the world, if not to complete destruction, at least to the level of brute sensation.

Between these two colossal world forces, said Dr. Peate, with their over-charges of empty stimuli, their perpetual miscarriage of technique, their materialist repletion, their costly ritual of conspicuous waste, their highly organised purposelessness, were the "little clans," the "little nations," those communities, principally rural, which from times beyond memory had accumulated traditional cultures mellowed and ripened by the wisdom of countless generations. Their tradition was the only buffer against the new barbarism.

STUDY OF FOLK LIFE

Whenever a little community was submergered by the new barbarism a bastion of civilisation fell. If the fall was inevitable, and that said Dr. Peate he did not concede, at least they must not fail in preparing a full record of that which perished. That was their duty, and by carrying it out faithfully and well they played their part in the defence of civilisation. He hoped that eventually throughout the ancient world there would be centres for the study of folk life.

The present upthrust into barbarism, which Dr. Peate claimed was a fair definition of the machine age, represented the disintegration of civilisation, the abandonment of the countryside, and the growth of huge suburban areas. Neither the machine on which their urban growths were founded, nor automation created tradition. What was transmitted from generation to generation was the many basic skills of individual men.

THAT FAITH

"Those of us who study folk life can contribute not only to the sum of scientific knowledge but can also assist in the rehabilitation of a society degraded by the arrogance of the techniques which it has devised," he added. "It is my belief that if our civilisation is to be saved, the study of the 'little clan,' its social organisation, its skills, its spiritual beliefs and its visions will play a vital part in that salvation. As students of folk life it is by that faith that we should work."

Dr. Peate, who has contributed a number of articles to Peace News, has been the driving force behind the development of the now internationally famous Welsh Folk Museum, at St. Fagan's, Cardiff.

Published by Peace News Ltd., 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4, and Printed in Great Britain by Fish & Cook Ltd., 135 Fonthill Road, N.4.

Test agreement may be sabotaged

warns US Commentator

WITHOUT an aroused public opinion it will be easy for those forces in the US Government which want tests to go on to block or sabotage any agreement.

This warning was given on Monday by I. F. Stone, the American political commentator, in his journal "I. F. Stone's Weekly."

The announcement of the cessation of nuclear testing, says Stone, is tricky. It must be evaluated

1. In the light of Administration Press agent policies; and
2. The President's habits as an executive.

The Press agency consists in leaking any major move in as glamorous a form as possible to get the maximum headline effect, leaving the small print for later. Thus the impression created during the past week is simply that the US and the UK on the heels of agreement by their technical experts at Geneva, had agreed to cease testing.

Now for the second factor—the President's habits as an executive. Mr. Eisen-

hower always seeks for some common denominator of policy which will be acceptable to all the diverse views and interests of his official family.

Public opinion

The Pentagon is concerned with making atomic war "conventional," i.e., in developing a whole family of nuclear weapons and of making them as "clean" as possible in order not to harm our own troops.

The AEC, caught up in the sheer technological momentum and zest of development, is also for continued testing. If the Pen-

tagon and the AEC have their way, testing will go on for ever.

But the Administration also has to take into account public opinion. This is the State Department's bailiwick. It cannot afford to appear to be shutting the door brusquely on the possibility of a test cessation agreement. At the same time, it does not want an agreement which will relax tension at least until the Russians give in and permit reunification of Germany on Western terms. The State Department needs some way to disarm public opinion at minimum price, and to bog the question down (as disarmament has been) in interminable complex negotiations.

"Work for freedom from the fear of war by international agreement and from the fear of want by international co-operation" says the latest poster of the Northern Friends Peace Board (Quakers).

A "Strength for these days" article by a former German Navy captain

Do it yourself: Start building trust now

By HEINZ KRASCHUTZKI

The writer, who now lives in Berlin, had to leave Germany before World War II as a result of his exposure of German rearmament in the 1920's. Later he was imprisoned in Spain for nine years.

THE mushroom cloud is hanging over us. We all know it. They talk of a Summit Conference, meant to remove the fear from our souls. We all doubt if it will do so.

Who will attend a Summit Conference? Men trained, before all to keep the mushroom cloud where it is; men with cold distrust of those on the other side.

No man will ever go to such a conference who is not safe beyond doubt against "softness." An open-minded, good-humoured chap, with a broad smile and no falsehood nor trickery in him, one whom they call a "good sort" or "good company," has no chance of getting there.

Trust

If there were a Summit Conference of good-humoured chaps it would come to an agreement within a few hours. There might be some deficiencies in that agreement, I agree, but it would be worth much more than all those heroes of distrust have ever achieved. Which is: nothing at all.

We have not the slightest influence upon the preparations for a Summit Conference nor the choice of those who will attend it. What can we do meanwhile? We who have faith in men, who believe that confidence between men is the only way to bring about a world worthy of living in?

While we have no influence on a coming Summit Conference, we should begin now to prepare the atmosphere for the next and the one after that.

To those men trained in distrust we have to oppose men and women with faith in men, with trust. We have to train for it.

Confidence

This is what we can do at any time, at any place. Our training ground can be at home, in school, in business life, at the office or workshop, in the train or on a boat, everywhere. Wherever we go we meet other people with whom we can practise, whom we can trust as far as our own moral strength—not their trustworthiness—goes.

It may have been easy for a man like Gandhi to trust his fellowmen not to steal

his property. He never had any. But I have known other men less prominent than Gandhi who did not keep their possessions locked up, who followed Nietzsche's opinion that it was preferable to be pilfered from time to time than be afraid of thieves all the time. It will happen the more seldom the more you confide in your fellowmen.

Confidence is one of the strongest ties between men. Let me tell you one example.

Work now

Many years ago a man called Scheidges was in charge of a prison at Muenster, Germany. One day a prisoner with a life-long sentence said to him:

"My mother is going to die within three days. Here is the doctor's certificate. She wants to see me for the last time. What can I do?"

He replied:

"I have no authority to grant you leave. Only the chief attorney at Hamm may do so. It is three days before Christmas—if you

write him today his answer will not be here for a fortnight, if that. It will certainly be negative."

Scheidges then scribbled a note on a scrap of paper.

"Go at once to get your plain clothes, then take the next train to your mother's. Be back here within three days. And remember, if you are not back in time they will punish me and I shall have to take your place in your empty cell."

"There was no risk for me at all," said Scheidges, telling me this story many years later. "Of course the man was back in time. No man on this earth would break his given word at the bedside of his dying mother."

Let us grant confidence to our fellowmen whenever there is a chance to do so. We shall help them and strengthen ourselves. We shall be nibbling at the very foundations of that mountain of distrust and hate that threatens to crush us. If we were many we should be able to bring it down at once. Just that we are not many is one reason more to set to work now.

SCIENTISTS ON TRIAL

Professor MARCUS OLIPHANT, F.R.S.

Physicist of the Australian National University.

Dr. LINUS PAULING, Nobel Prize Winner

Physical Chemist of the Institute of Technology, Pasadena.

Professor C. H. WADDINGTON, F.R.S.

Geneticist of Edinburgh University.

and other scientists attending the 3rd Pugwash Conference of International Scientists in Austria will be examined about atomic and hydrogen bombs, and the responsibility of the Scientist in the Nuclear Age.

BY

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